



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

Suite 15114, 1800 Century Center Blvd, Atlanta, GA 30345-3205

Contact: Charles Willey
Director, Public Information
(404) 417-2106
cwwilley@gw.rev.state.ga.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 14, 2003

State Offering Free Online Tax Filing

ATLANTA - The Georgia Department of Revenue has entered into agreements with several national tax preparation software companies making online electronic tax filing free for qualifying Georgia tax filers.

"Thanks to this tax filing system, a large population of Georgians will be able to file their own taxes without any additional expense for the service," said Governor Perdue. "This public-private partnership benefits our citizens at no cost the state."

The free service is offered though the Free File Alliance, which is a public-private partnership agreement between the Internal Revenue Service and software companies in the tax preparation industry.

The participating software companies are listed on the Georgia Department of Revenue web site at www.gatax.org. Each participating company individually determines the scope of its free service.

"Taxpayers should visit DOR's web site and determine if any of the participating companies meet their tax filing requirements," explained Bobby Goolsby, Director of DOR's Income Tax Division.

Goolsby estimates that approximately 48 percent of the state's taxpayers should be eligible to use one of the free online tax preparation programs.

He stated that the on line service is being provided by trusted software companies with proven track records. New York, Massachusetts and Michigan are also offering this free on line service during this tax season.

The number of Georgia taxpayers electing to file electronically has increased steadily since its introduction in 1996. As of March 1, the Department has processed 1,076,992 electronic returns during the present tax season. The Department expects to process 3.7 million returns (paper and electronic) during the 2002 tax filing season.

###